[13th December 1954

DR. K. B. MENON :—" Looking at the figures placed on the table of the House, there is more than 300 per cent increase in the number of suicide cases during 1953–54. Is there any particular reason for it? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I do not find a 300 per cent increase in the number of suicide cases. In 1952-53 it was 12 and in 1953–54 it was 20. Is it a 300 per cent increase? "

SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR :—" May I know whether these figures include any suicide committed within the police station? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" No, Sir, as far as I could see."

* Question Nos. 258 and 259—

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" I request that question Nos. 258 and 259 may be taken up together."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Yes, they may be taken up together."

Levy of sales tax at a single point.

* 258 *Q.*—SRI M. KALYANASUNDRAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have completed consideration of the proposal to amend the General Sales Tax Act, 1939, so as to levy tax at single point; and

(*b*) if so, the final decision of the Government in the matter?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" (*a*) No.

" (*b*) No definite scheme has yet been formulated."

* 259 *Q.*—SRI C. KANDASAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Hon. the Chief Minister stated at a public meeting at Madurai on 29th August 1954 that the Government are considering the feasibility of replacing the multi-point sales tax on commodities by a single-point one; and

(*b*) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to lay a copy of the scheme on the table of the House and when it will be brought into effect?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) No definite scheme has yet been formulated."